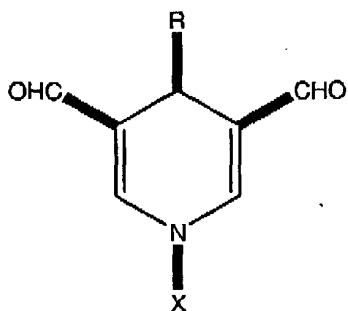


Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1-22 (Canceled).

23. A method of detecting the presence of alcohol liver disease comprising:  
collecting a ~~biological~~ sample of serum, plasma or urine; and  
assaying for the presence of a hybrid malondialdehyde-acetaldehyde (MAA)  
protein adduct, said adduct having the following formula:



wherein X is a peptide or protein containing an active lysine residue; and R is selected  
from the group consisting of a lower C<sub>1</sub> to C<sub>6</sub> alkyl group, benzyl and hydrogen,  
wherein increased MAA protein adduct, when compared against levels in a person not  
suffering from alcohol liver disease, is associated with alcohol liver disease.

Claim 24 (Canceled).

2  
Claim 25 (Currently amended):      1      The method of claim 23 wherein said method of detection  
is by fluorescence detection at 397 nm.

Copy of Allowed Claims

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<sup>3</sup>  
Claim ~~26~~ (Previously presented):    The method of claim ~~23~~<sup>1</sup> wherein said detection is by an immunoassay comprising an antibody which recognizes a MAA epitope, said antibody being a monoclonal or polyclonal antibody.